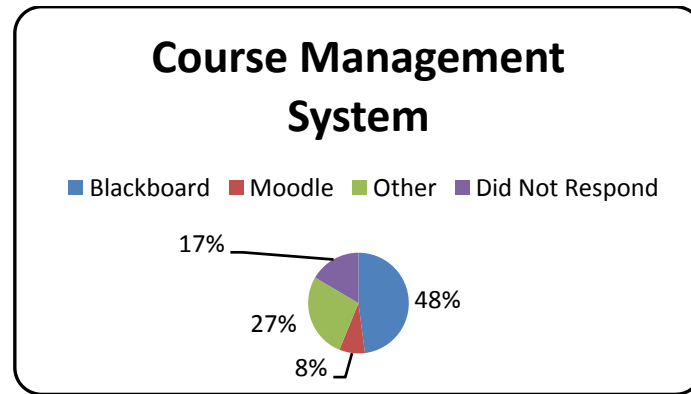


Instructional Technology Needs Survey Part 2: Course Management System



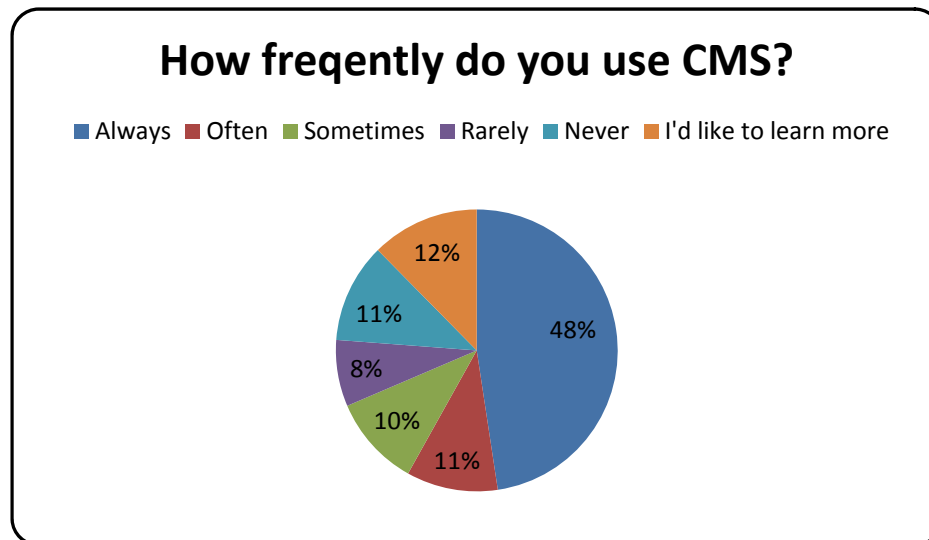
Other:

- Both
- course web page Front Page
- Do not use any, but student email assignments via attachments to my mailbox
- Do not use one
- Haven't Used One Yet
- Homework Service
- I developed my own
- I do not use course management systems
- I don't
- I don't use a course management system
- I use vista for online classes but post normal course materials on a personal website
- I've used Blackboard in the past, but prefer using my own web pages
- N/A
- none at this time
- NONE CURRENTLY
- none yet but would like to use vista whenever I can slow down and take the training
- nothing right now, but will use Moodle soon
- paper syllabus, handouts, excel for recording grades
- publishers
- REAL Blackboard and the current version or an open source program
- Schedule Book but learning Blackboard
- use different ones for different purposes
- website

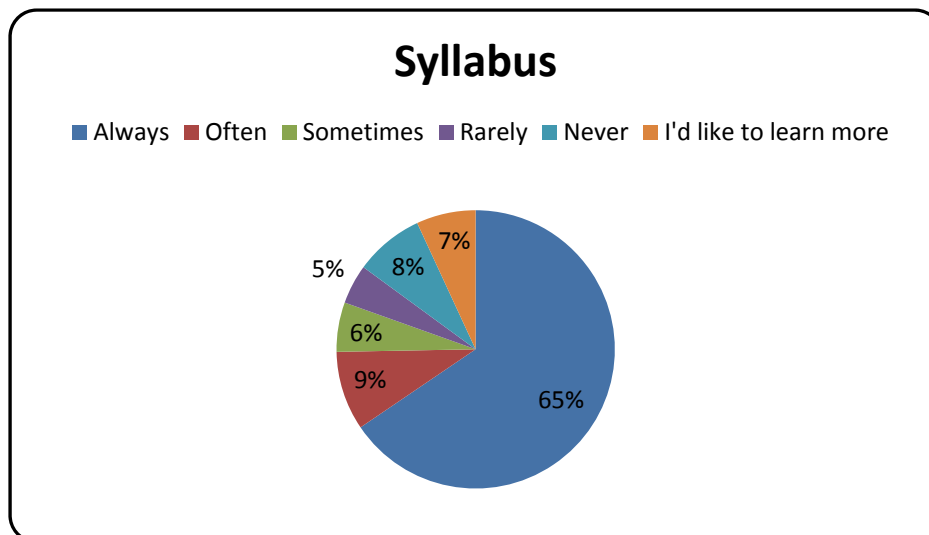
If you don't use a Course Management System, why not?

- 1.) Paper works just fine, thank you.2) I see the e-mails about how difficult it is to move from one system to the next improved" upgrade. I have a slow learning curve for this sort of technology and I don't want to waste a couple of years learning one system and preparing materials for it only to find what I've done is obsolete. I waste enough time moving files from one version of MS Word to another."
- Because I am not instructional faculty.
- don't have enough background
- Don't need one.
- Don't see the need.
- Hired just prior to start of semester and have not had time or opportunity to learn how to use them. Have used Blackboard at prior University.
- I do not find them useful
- I prefer to put up articles on my own web page. I've heard too many horror stories of the transition to Vista. I will probably try moodle at some point.
- I used Blackboard a bit when I was a graduate student instructor in the late 90s. When I arrived at CCSU in 2002, I took a look at WebCT and decided against it. I understand the new Vista is better, but I've established my teaching routines without at this point and have little time with at least three preps per semester and research/service responsibilities. One day I may look into again when I find time. Currently, the potential instructional benefits don't seem to outweigh the considerable time costs of integrating a tech component.
- Much of what I want my students to use I would like to share with others who attend workshops I have given. Using a regular website for that is much more useful.
- There's nothing I do in my teaching that requires it. If I were in a smart classroom, it would be a boon to be able to access the OED during classes, and I imagine my students would be grateful to have handouts available for download on-line, but all I need to teach is space and a board of some color to write on.

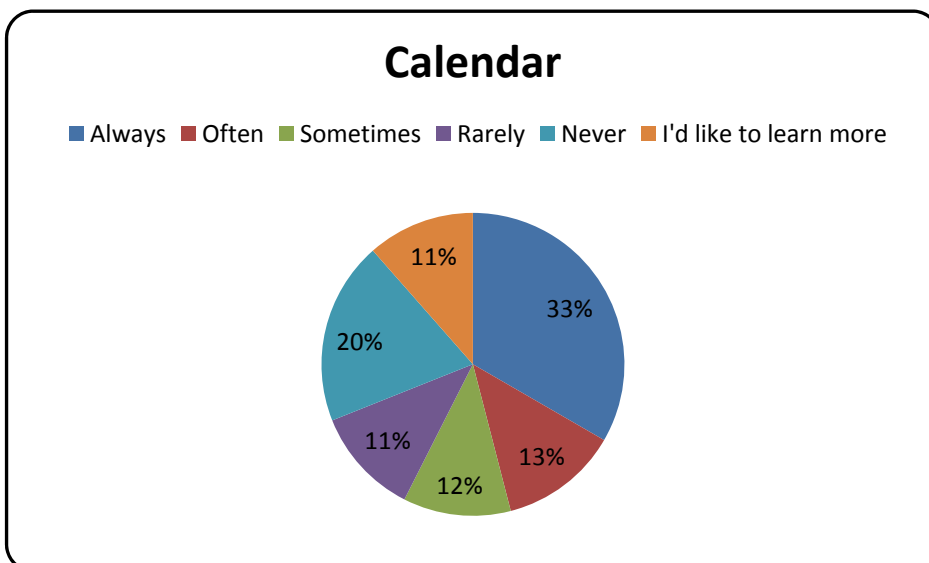
How frequently do you use a Course Management System in your courses?



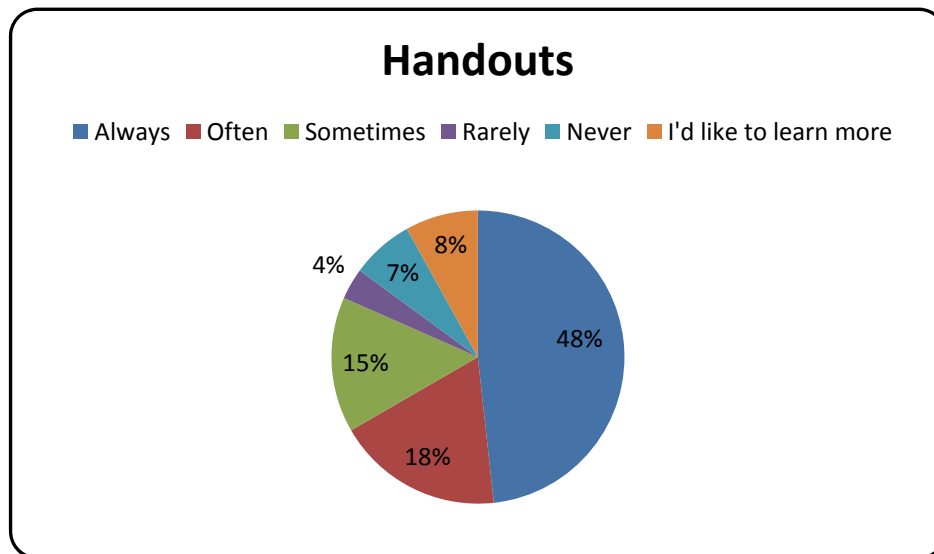
How often have you:
Put your Syllabus online



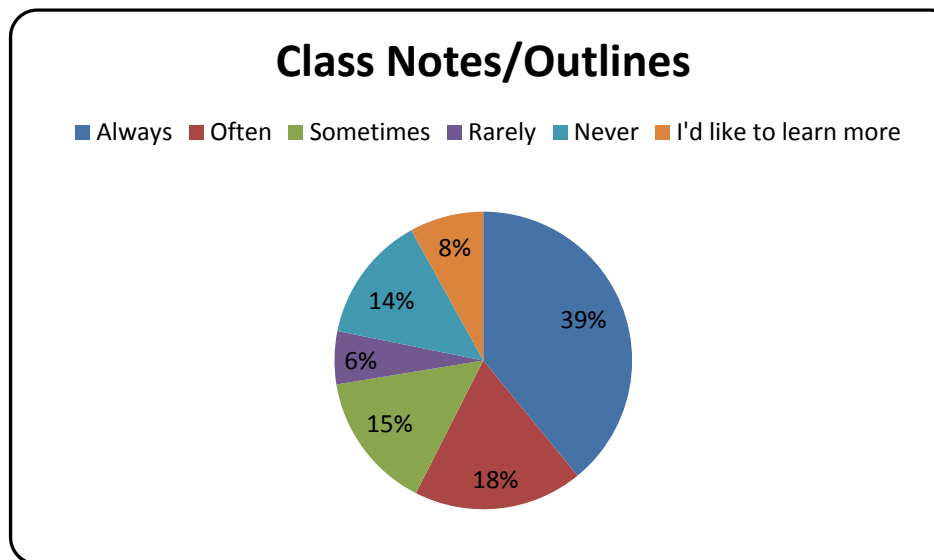
Put a class calendar online



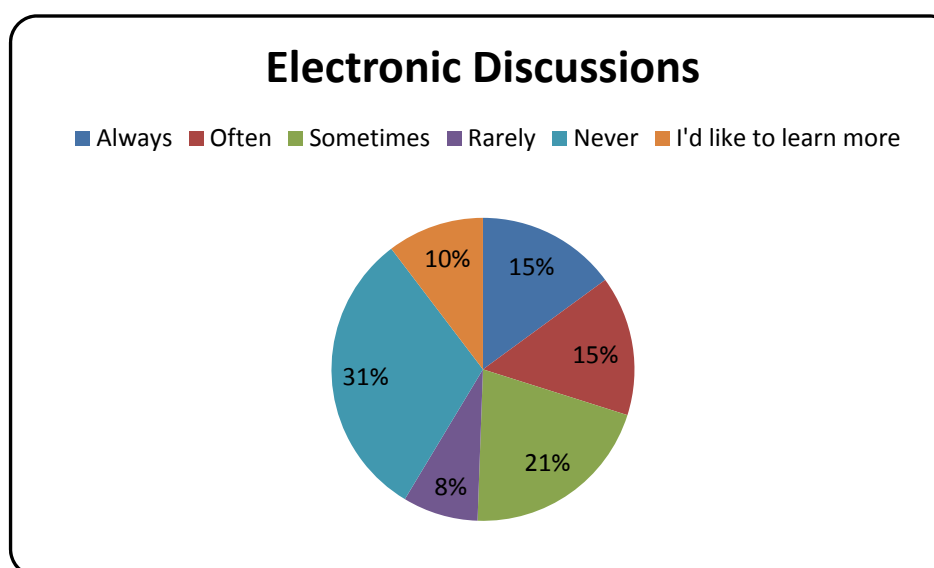
Posted handouts for your students



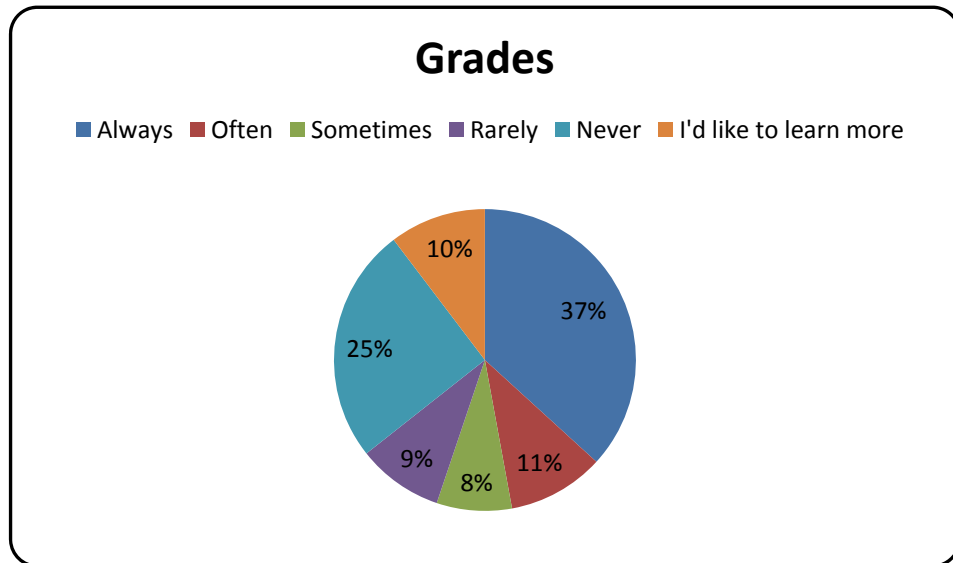
Posted class notes/outlines for your students



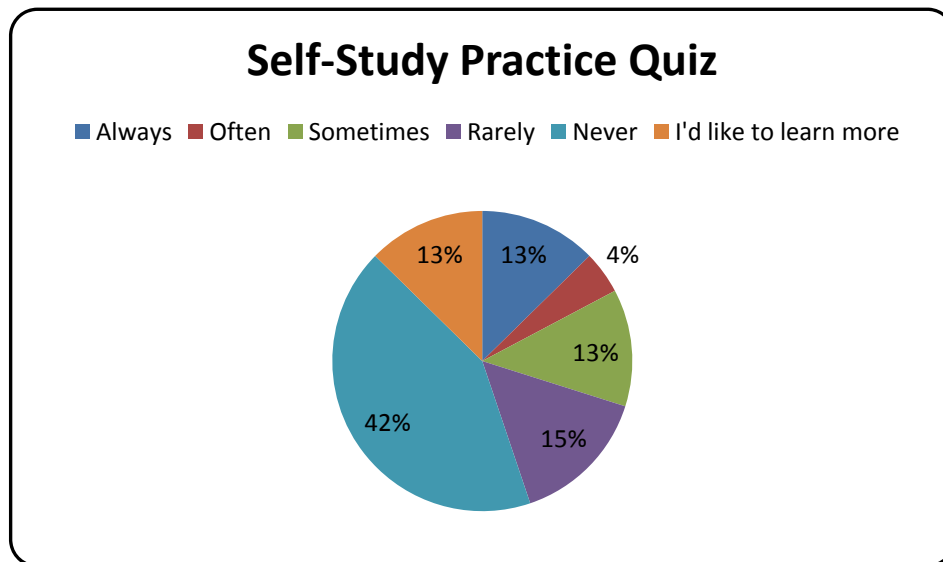
Used electronic discussion questions for your students



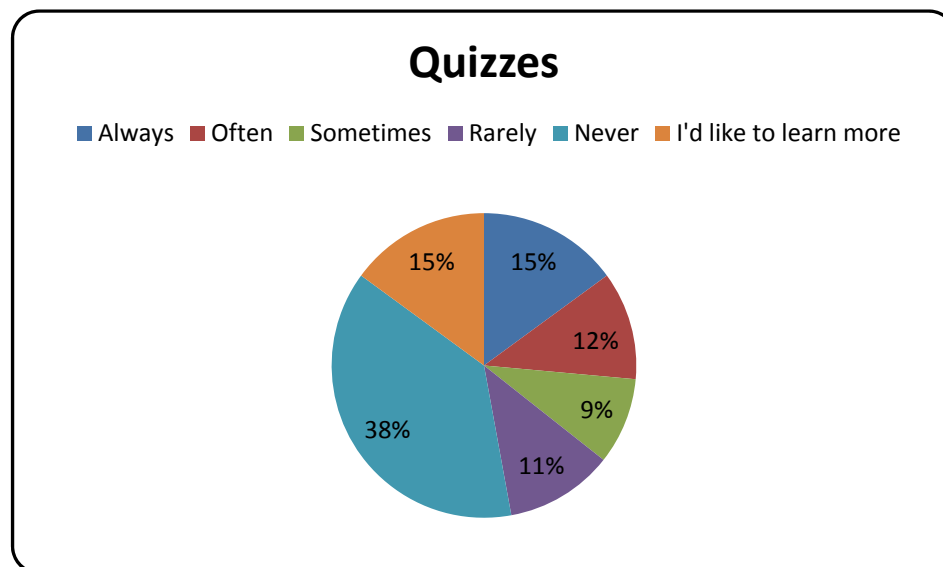
Made grades available for your students



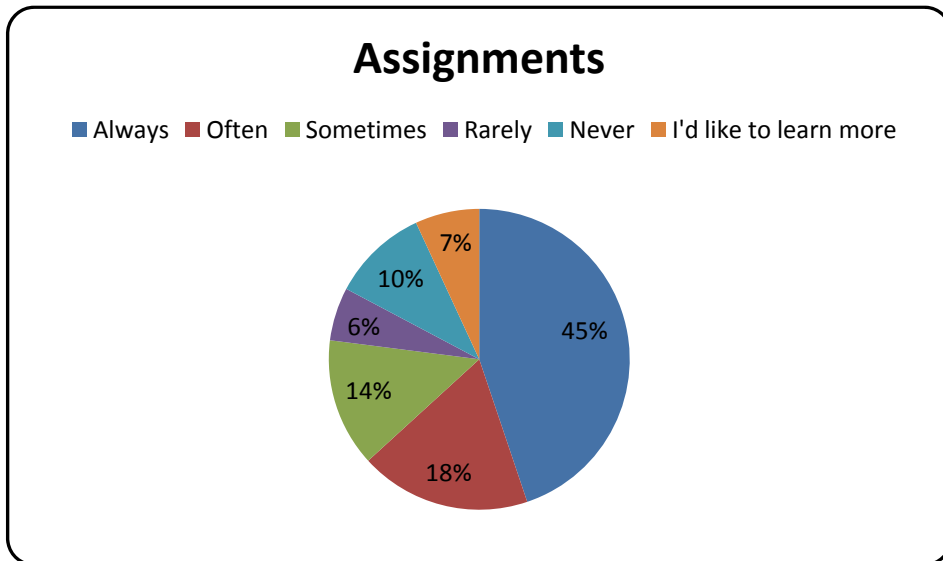
Made self-study practice quizzes available for students



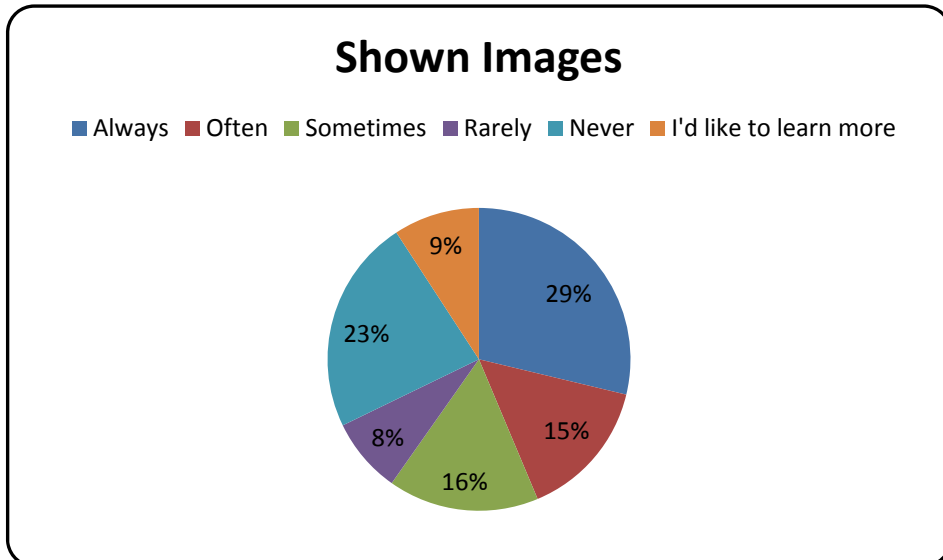
Given quizzes to your class



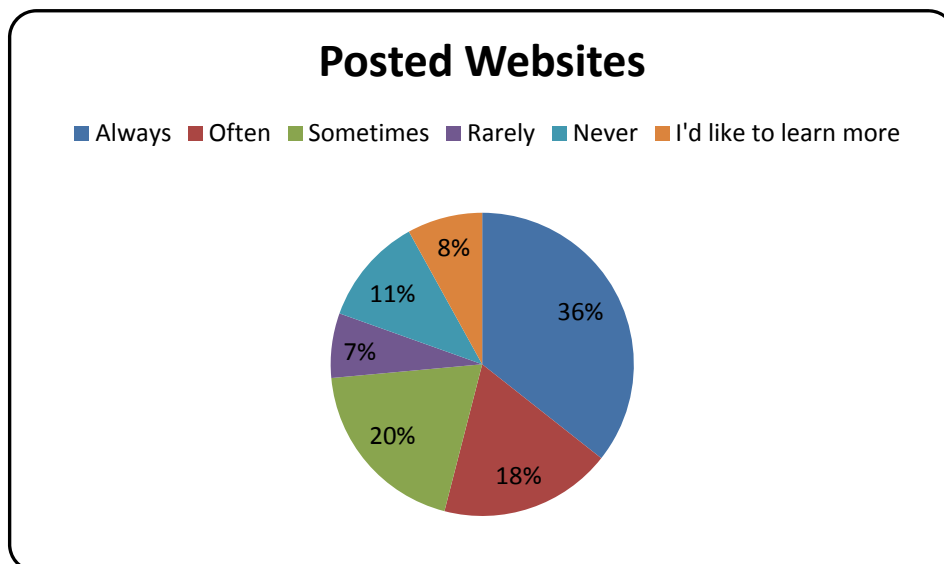
Had students submit assignments electronically



Shown images to students



Posted links to websites for your students



What do you like BEST about a Course Management System?

1. Ability for students to access course information 24/7. Students can find the materials they need even if they miss class or lose their notebook. Posting grades is very convenient as well.
2. Ability of students to time shift
3. Ability to control what material is available to each student - esp. regarding grades (each student can see only his/her own grades with these systems).
4. ability to use media easily
5. ability to work in different views (faculty/student)
6. access to course materials and grades
7. accessibility
8. Accessible from everywhere and anytime for my students. Reliable system with all needed functions. Easy to use.
9. All of the above
10. Allows instructor to post anytime, and allows students to visit it anytime. Doesn't clog mailboxes with big attachments.
11. assigning and grading homework
12. Communication and Collaboration abilities
13. Communication is constant, immediate, and complete
14. Complete course management abilities.
15. convenience and no excuses for losing handouts
16. Convenience in information distribution.
17. Ease of editing. Grades should be available for students immediately
18. Ease of handling different formats of image and sound files.
19. Ease of making information available to students
20. Ease of use for students, including multi-platform/browser compatibility.
21. easier than writing web pages
22. easy to update
23. Hard to say at this point, I just began using it and need to get accustomed to the process.

24. Having a central location for posting course materials that is available only to students enrolled in the course.
25. Helps to keep the class organized and course content is available to students when they miss class
26. I don't know enough to say
27. I have integrated its use into my course design so completely that I cannot imagine getting the same learning results without its use
28. I have used this most to teach fully online courses, and much less for on ground courses. For online courses, Vista worked fine.
29. I like the flexibility of designing my own online syllabi. I like posting resources that are downloadable for studying and reference. I like the opportunity to easily use websites that are built into my syllabus, and the fact that changes can be made and posted easily.
30. Immediate feedback
31. It allows me to post all handouts and assignments.
32. It easily facilitates forums such as message boards
33. It is the best way to get grades back to students, and protect their privacy/confidentiality at the same time.
34. It makes grades available to students. It stops the "paper shuffle" of collecting assignments and passing the assignments back."
35. It's an organizational tool. It allows me to show examples of student work. Saves paper. Useful for students who miss class, etc. Makes a 60 year old faculty member look a bit more hip.
36. Less paper
37. Less paperwork, less e-mail from students.
38. Makes information easily available to students
39. My course management system is presently paper and pencil. I use e-mail for attendance, student hand in of projects, feedback on projects and progress, grading, handouts and guidance.
40. Not sure
41. not sure
42. Online organizational and operational functionality.
43. On-line submission of homework, on-line quizzes.
44. Organization and ease of use for students.

45. Provides a platform restricted to my class. Otherwise it'd be easier to use a web page to accomplish the same things.
46. Provides access to high quality handouts (powerpoint, etc.) to students
47. Provides an efficient way to communicate with students, including those that do not or sometimes are unable to attend class.
48. Reduce paper, students who miss class can see what went on
49. Security (password protection to help minimize some copyright concerns). Students have the option to visit/use 24 by 7. Threaded discussions (which I like better than Blogs..).
50. Students can access it any time and get information
51. That's different for different courses. By and large, a course management system should allow for efficient communication between students and faculty and among students, and to allow for sharing data and analyses in group assignments. On these issues, Vista is unimaginably crappy.
52. The ability for students to access course information electronically.
53. The ability to create a collaborative learning atmosphere. I find that because our conversations can extend beyond the class, through our Moodle site, students think about the questions raised in class and can interact with their peers and me as ideas occur to them.
54. The ability to organize and communicate the content of the course to the students. I like that it allows for paper-free exchange on assignments and projects. I also like the 24/7 access.
55. The ability to put protected course material on-line.
56. the ability to reach all students at all times and to introduce additional material-as well as inject enthusiasm for various subject matter into students out of class
57. The ability to re-use the courses I have worked to create. Unfortunately, in the last few years at CCSU, I have not been able to re-use any of my courses.
58. The ability to warehouse all important documents for the course, and link to relevant online resources.
59. The appeal for me to a course management system is the flexibility to sit down at the beginning of a term and plot out the work and then at any point to add information so that students know when something special is to be done or is available, such as a tutorial or a special lecture they ought to attend.
60. The fact that I know the guy who runs it. He puts plug-ins that I want in order to visualize molecules in 3D. Tom is da BOMB!
61. the ready-made nature
62. The syllabus and assignments are available whenever a student needs to use them.
63. universal access for students, ability to share exemplary student work with students

64. Very efficient use of my time. No need to make and distribute copies of handouts. Students can monitor their progress in the course.
65. When I had a system I could figure out, like WebCT, I liked that I could make a website with pictures, links, syllabi, etc. I posted grades religiously and it was easy for me to keep an electronic record and get them to the students. It was like designing a syllabus/webpage and I enjoyed being creative with it.

What do you like LEAST about a Course Management System?

1. Amount of time to get things done in a CMS vs. the amount that is provided by CCSU due to teaching loads and other duties. Getting quite dated. Costs to the University/System. Inability to deal with media rich materials (and streaming). Inability to deal with file sizes from media-rich assignments. Number of clicks to get something done. Number of clicks and time to login. Limited ability to develop/use materials off-line. Gradebook does not deal with grade calculations in a user-friendly way (unable to do things that even a \$30 shareware app. can do) and no real synching to other apps. No WIKI. The fact that Vista removed the ability to e-mail confirmation (to instructor and student) of assignment submissions (WebCT had this). In ability for instructor to delete student submissions without actually returning it to them (causes much confusion). Probably more but that was 5 minutes worth...
2. Blackboard is pretty awful--I do not like the way it is set up for the teacher and it is missing some key features such as useable discussion boards. Its discussion options are poor at best.
3. Blackboard Vista at CCSU is slow and cumbersome -I've seen it at other campuses and it is implemented in a more user-friendly manner.
4. Blackboard Vista is a pain in every respect. Hard to edit, non-intuitive.
5. Can be very slow and cumbersome (the grade sheets, for example). File size limits are too small. Uploads and Downloads from off campus are exceedingly slow.
6. Cannot delete unwanted files and grade columns.
7. CCSU doesn't provide me with sufficient storage for what I have students do. By the end of the semester many of my students have journal/textbooks" that may be from 2 to 20 Mb in size. So I use my own personal IP which is a POP account. I can keep the student's material on my computer once I open their work."
8. CCSU's system is clumsy. Nothing seems intuitive. If you haven't used it for a couple of months, you have to start at the beginning. A good system would be more like Excel.
9. complicated and steep learning curve. I have used prometheus, blackboard at www.gwu.edu and WebCt at www.gmu.edu and found that blackboard is less complicated.
10. Constant platform changes.
11. Difficult to use
12. Hard to navigate interfaces and inflexibility about the interface - I would prefer to do a little more work (writing my own webpages, for example) to being limited to the interface presented by the system.
13. hard to send an email to whole class and post grades
14. Having to code html by hand anywhere! Having default settings that don't allow students to see objects when they're posted.
15. I don't know enough to say

16. I don't like having to open a separate HTML editor to add information to my site. I don't like having to set 3 different switches to allow students to see assignments.
17. I find it difficult to manage my on-line documents. I can't seem to remove outdated documents from the system and when I upload updated documents, they have to be renamed. Students assume because things are available on-line, they don't need to come to class.
18. I have no complaints with the Moodle system, although I'd like to see more University resources put into it. I shall never use Vista.
19. I sometimes feel vulnerable. It is public and although I like to share my work and learn what other people are doing- I would like to build in some private space through Vista?
20. I want to be able to make changes easily. The one we have now isn't as easy to use as the last one...if that makes any sense.
21. In general, the course management systems I've used (WebCT and Vista) have required too much sophistication on the part of the students. For instance, many of them don't know what Java is, much less how to make sure that their computers are updated with the required next-to-most-recent Java updates. Vista works well for platform developers and those who have a dedicated IT department servicing their machines, but it's a pain for the novice computer user.
22. Inability (in Blackboard) to archive material in a way that can be accessed w/o using proprietary software. Poorly thought-out user interface (eg. tiny edit boxes.) One-size fits all mentality.
23. Incompatibility with files student download, unable to accept Office 2007 file extensions.
24. Inflexible structure
25. It could be seen as an excuse for students to not come to class, if most or all of the relevant course information is posted.
26. It improves with each version. There is nothing about it that I like least
27. It should be maintained from year to year. You shouldn't have to recreate each course every semester.
28. lack of use by the students
29. My comments here are about VISTA, not about course management, in general. I dislike the clumsy file interface; I hate the VISTA-only e-mail (I would like to tap outlook and have students be able to manage their own email address). I dislike not being able to use the back arrow in moving from screen to screen. I think the interface with external testbanks is awful. The management of assessments - from building question banks to making assessments available - is non-intuitive, opaque, and time consuming. I could go on, but those are the top items that come to mind.
30. Not an easy access for students. Non traditional students and part-time students don't always establish a campus email or access the pipeline. Also, as CSU faculty we have primary responsibility to be instructional designers as well as content experts
31. not as intuitive as it could be. Difficult to replace documents

32. Not enough flexibility (lockstep)
33. not sure
34. over reliance -- which would not be my case as an English teacher
35. reliance on a technologically equipped calss room.
36. See above.
37. Seems too restrictive sometimes
38. Slopily written software tested on a very limited range of hardware
39. Some are VERY cumbersome to use and not very user-friendly. Can also be time-consuming to set up.
40. sometimes too many steps to post something simple
41. steep learning curve for some of them, especially Vista
42. Students think they are in an online course and they do not need to attend actual class.
43. Students too frequently state they can't get on" or that it "didn't work right". I have used my own website since in avoids compatibility issues."
44. Taking a lot of steps to achieve some task, like for example, uploading a file.
45. The antiquated version we are using when the one we are about to upload is still not the current version!!!!!!
46. The constant changes and re-learning required
47. The difficulties in adding material and setting up the initial organization. It takes quite a bit of extra time.
48. The fact that it is paper and pencil.
49. THE FILE MANAGER IN VISTA.
50. The gradebook is difficult - for example when a student is no longer a member of the class. Or when an assignment is given, I need to individually delete inbox if I want to record grades through the gradebook feature.
51. The learning curve, and sometimes the Help feature isn't taht helpful.
52. The recycling course feature is confusing. The one time I did it, all course information was lost.
53. The somewhat unflexible structure to manage course as desired.
54. The standardization. Lousy aesthetics. Clunky non-windows environment. Non-intuitive.
55. The temptation to use tools that are not really necessary - just because they are there.

56. There is not enough flexibility in terms of design. Your course web is restricted by the programmer's design of the software.
57. They are clunky and not at all intuitive.
58. Time consuming to learn and post. Current Blackboard Vista version interface is not very easy to use or intuitive. Students have some difficulty with it.
59. To be honest, they are just getting beyond my abilities. I can't figure out Blackboard Vista so I have stopped using it. I liked WebCT which was intuitive. I am tired of having to learn new software every two years. It doesn't make my life easier. Recently everything I post is HIDDEN, so I just stopped and I use email to send student papers around for peer review. Vista is ugly and I can't create something artistic to look at. I have Ph.D. in history and a J.D., not a computer science degree or an education degree. I don't have the personal wherewithal to keep up in my academic fields and learn whole new systems of online course management.
60. upkeep, time it will take to move from website to vista, changing platforms
61. Upkeep. The drudgery of uploading files.
62. Very awkward editing of everything.
63. very cumbersome when it comes to grading written assignments
64. What's not to like?